

NEWS and GOSSIP of WASHINGTON



Glimpse Into Uncle Sam's Big Printing Office

WASHINGTON—Approximately 4,000 men working in shifts through the 24 hours of the day and night, tons of paper going in and coming out, the ceaseless whirl of presses, the rumble of machinery, the clacking of linotype machines—these are the things that strike the visitor when he enters the government's immense publishing house.

The infinite detail of the government printing office—for that is the official title of the publishing establishment—comes afterward. It is only after the confusion of first impressions has cleared away that the complexity of the public printer's problems are apparent. Perfect system, a knowledge of arrangement so that the minimum of time may be lost in transportation, and individual efficiency are some of the requirements.

What publishing house, putting out hundreds of new editions in all sorts of elaborate bindings, and running a newspaper on the side, would not feel that it was straining itself? That is what the government's printer is doing. An insight into the immensity of the work is gleaned from the figures of the post office showing that approximately 85 per cent of the total weight of mail disposed of in Washington is mailed under a government frank.

Perhaps the rush work of the printer is the most spectacular. Congress must have its Congressional Record every morning as regularly as the suburbanite must have his newspaper, and there must be no errors in the Record. When an error crops out in the Record a member of congress promptly arises next day and has it changed. So, as far as is possible, the government printing office must prevent them. While the mills of congress grind, the government printing office is going ahead with a speed worthy of an eleven-edition mail disposed of in Washington is mailed under a government frank, and this immense amount of printed matter represents, of course, only a part of the public printer's output.

Capital Social Strategists Have Many Difficulties

THE handling of the diplomatic corps in a diplomatic way at society affairs is no small matter at any time, but when any unpleasantness breaks out between two countries the difficulties of the social strategists in Washington increase ten-fold. It will take but a brief calculation to understand what would happen in Washington if the social season of the capital were in full swing now with the European situation in its present status. If peace is not declared within a few weeks there will be some curious situations developed in the Washington society world this winter. Hostesses will be put to it in the matter of inviting guests and the White House also will have some problems to solve.

It is true that handling of representatives from warring countries at society affairs will not be a novel experience to Washingtonians. It is not so long ago that the ambassadors from Italy and Turkey were not on intimate terms. Some time before that the representatives of China and Japan could not be placed side by side at a dinner. Prior to that it was the Russo-Japanese war that gave the society folk of Washington more or less trouble. In spite of precautions accidents did happen and many a hostess would have been in tears had it not been for the diplomacy of the diplomats themselves, who appreciate perhaps more keenly than anyone else the difficulties of the situation.

Hard as it is to manage society affairs here when two countries are drawing swords against each other, it will be as nothing compared with what must be done if practically all Europe continues to fight. It has been facetiously suggested that John Barrett, director general of the Pan-American Union, should be appointed to manage society affairs here this winter because of his success in promoting harmony among the representatives in Washington of the South and Central American countries for some years past.

What the Waiter Said to Senator Cummins

SENATOR ALBERT B. CUMMINS of Iowa rejoices in initials similar to those by which the diplomatic mediation commission was designated, for the first letters of his three names are A, B, C. His family originally came from Pennsylvania, but they emigrated to Iowa some years ago.

If Cummins has a fad it is books, and first-edition books, at that. His library is magnificent, and particularly rich in historical works. His pride is his ancient tomes, though he is equally proud of the fine farms of which his state boasts.

There is a story told on Senator Cummins to the effect that last summer he and his wife went to a fashionable roof garden in Washington.

After a day at the capitol, the cool breezes and music seemed delightful; so the senator bethought himself of something to eat. Taking up the card, he tried to read it without his glasses, which he had left on his desk, but was unsuccessful.

He appealed to Mrs. Cummins, but that lady had also forgotten hers. So he handed the card to a smiling colored waiter who stood at the back of his chair.

"Waiter," he said, "please read this for me."

The man took the card, looked at it in a puzzled way, then gave it back. "I'm sorry, boss, that I can't help you out," he said, with a shake of the head, "but you see I ain't got much education either."

Fish Leaps Into Boat of White House Sleuths

"DICK" JERVIS and "Tommy" Callahan, secret service men stationed at the White House, and good-looking fellows, have won reputations for catching counterfeiters, and land fraud crooks, but it was not until recently that they gained any reputation as fishermen.

The reputation, however, is based solely upon what they are telling themselves. Jervis, usually a reserved and modest individual, doing the telling and Callahan adding, "That's so." There are fish stories and then some more fish stories, but these bodyguards of the president have one which does terrible violence to the wildest imagination, their yarn being to the effect that a three-pound bass they displayed about the White House actually jumped into the boat.

"I guess maybe he didn't want to get his jaws pricked," opined Jervis. "Anyway, without the slightest warning, this bass splashed out of the river and almost into Tommy's lap. I think we must have caught his wife, as we had three pretty big fish when the sensational leap was made, or he may have gotten a squirt at Tommy's spurs."

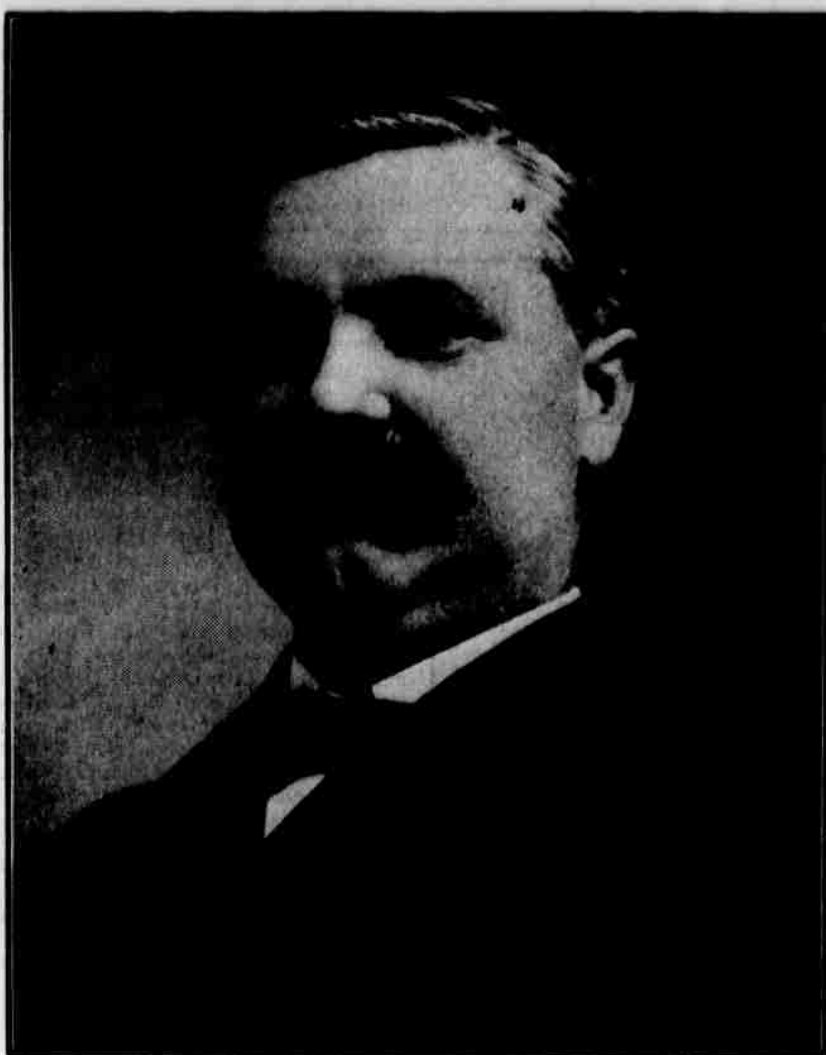
"Jimmy" Sloan, chief of the secret service squad at the White House, vouches for the veracity of his two associates.

The Straggler.

A certain Confederate private, whose name might be Jim Buckalew, was in the foremost lines at Petersburg when the mine was exploded under the Elliott salient. After he had gone skyward a piece he returned and fell in the crater, and later was dug out from under several feet of dirt, alive. "I'm plum disgraced," he confided to the nurse in the hospital. "When that mine went off I was back from the trench a bit. Consequently I was just goin' up in the air when the other fellows was comin' down—and when I passed 'em every last one of 'em cussed me an' said: 'Hey, yu damned straggler, yu, why don't you keep up with the troop?'"

Beer Always on Tap.

Bavaria has the world's record for beer drinking. Perhaps that accounts for a certain push button in the city of Nuremberg. On one of the many interesting little streets of that quaint old town there is a large, plain-looking building which serves as the downtown office and warehouse of a certain large brewery. In the wall near the door of this wholesale establishment there is a push button that evidently connects with an electric bell somewhere. Over it is a sign reading "Bierglocke," which translated literally into English means "Beer Bell"—evidently an arrangement for summoning more beer in case of emergency.



JOHN J. BRADLEY.
Popular Democratic Candidate for County Treasurer.

Vote for Louis Legner for the Democratic nominee for County Commissioner.

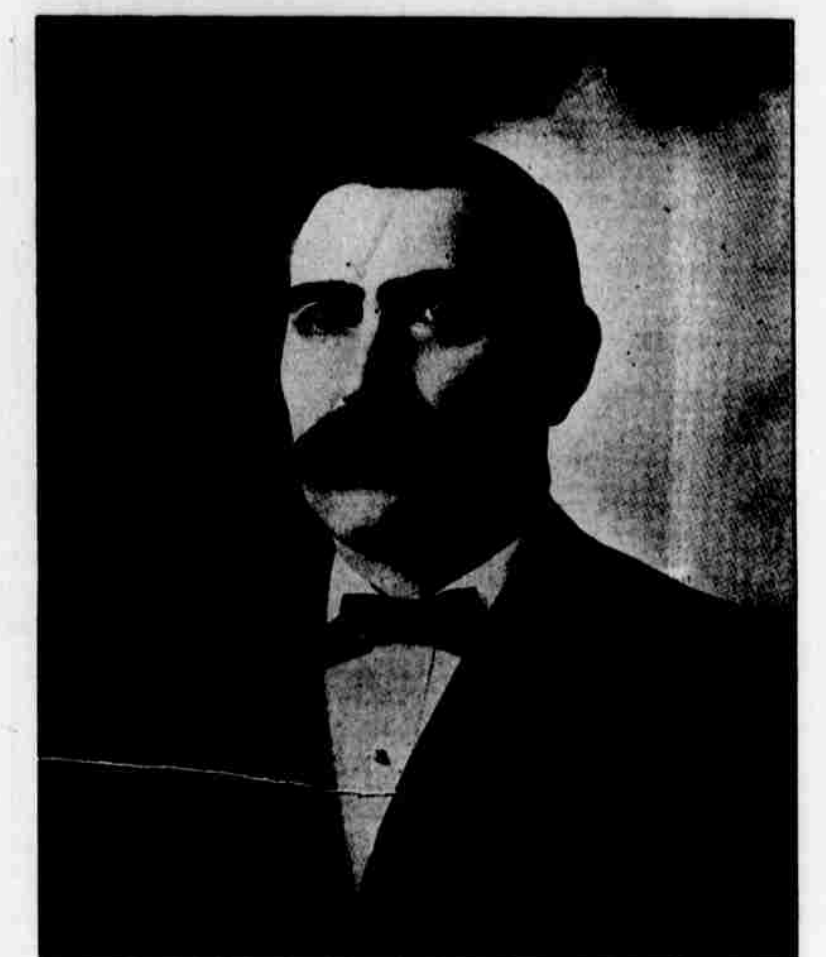
Honest John E. Traeger has served the people faithfully and well. He would make a splendid sheriff. The Democrats will nominate him sure.

Robert M. Switzer has made a good county clerk and the fact is so

a man of high character force and ability and if nominated, would poll a great vote.

Judge Merritt W. Pickney, has made a fine record in the Juvenile Court and justified every prediction made for him by his friends.

Gustav A. Berkes reflects great credit on Gov. Dunne's administra-



JOHN E. TRAEGER,
Democratic Candidate for Sheriff.

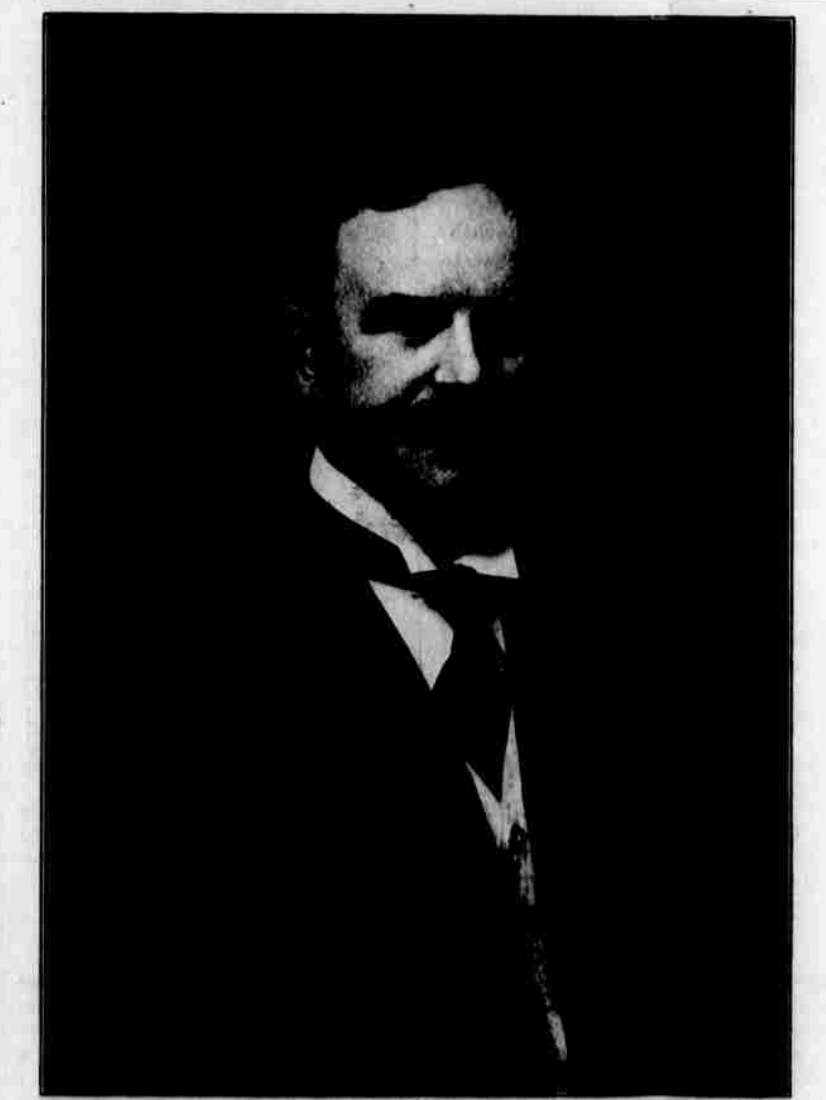
generally recognized that a re-nomination is conceded to him by Democrats. He has no serious opposition anywhere.

Republicans will nominate Isaac N. Powell for member of the Board of Review.

John H. Jones the popular former Alderman, is a strong Republican candidate for Sanitary Trustee. He is

Democrats are almost a unit for John J. Bradley for County Treasurer. His clean record and his honest candor win favor everywhere.

George F. Harding should be nominated and elected State Senator in the First District.



ROBERT E. WILSON,
Popular and Able Democratic Representative of the Sixth District, Who Deserves to Be Renominated and Re-elected.

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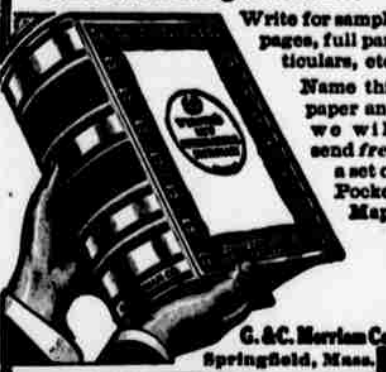
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MUNICIPAL NEWS

Some Items of Interest From the
Public Offices About Occur-
rences of the Week.

Judge Thomas F. Scully has a big army of supporters for the Democratic nomination for County Judge. They are proud of his record.

Judge Henry C. Bettler of the Municipal court is a hot favorite among Republicans and Progressives for judge of the County court. Judge Bettler will be a candidate on the Republican ticket at the primaries and will probably be nominated by a large majority.

Irwin R. Hazen would make an ideal member of Congress. He knows the needs of Chicago and has the courage to fight for them.

William D. Munhall, one of the best lawyers in Chicago, would make a good Municipal Court Judge. He should be nominated and elected.

Frank J. Walsh has made a splendid record as Clerk of the Criminal Court. Affable and accommodating in his manner, he has brought to the position his great natural tact and ability—qualities which have won for him friends among all classes of people.

John J. Bradley can unite all Federal, State, County and City Democrats for the ticket as the candidate for County Treasurer. He is popular with everybody.

William Hale Thompson would make a big, liberal, go-ahead Mayor for big, liberal, go-ahead Chicago.

Vote for John P. Tansey for County Commissioner. He is on the Democratic ticket and deserves to be nominated and elected.

John A. Cervenkova deserves re-election as Clerk of the Probate Court. His record is good.

The Crispo Cracker Cadets want the whole bakery so far as the county offices are concerned.

John R. Caverly's record on the Municipal bench is worthy of all praise.

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